

perdition and condemnation without God's seeking in every possible way to turn you from the course of life that leads to sure ruin.

But the sickness and punyness can be avoided. It comes from sin that we refuse to judge. If we would be strong and healthy in our Christian life we must get sin out of our being as we must drive the poison out of the blood if we would enjoy bodily health.

We must be bold enough to take a good honest look into every chamber and nook of our being, and mark every thing, sin, that is displeasing to God or not in harmony with his word. We may not be able to drive it out but we can allow the Son of God to go through and cleanse every corner and take full possession of our being to will and work his own pleasure. We must have done with every sin and questionable thing or else have nothing but a Christian experience that is feeble and fitful and broken and marked with continual failure.

Glenford, Ohio.

PAY THE DEBTS WE OWE.

Read on Children's day, June 19, 1897, at Dunlap, Ind., by Bertie Cline.

Debt is what one owes to another. It may be divided into three classes: Financial, Temporal and Spiritual.

So many of us are inclined to look only upon the financial side of the question.

It is well, but it is better to be a whole man than only one-third of a man. Among the many debts we owe, I would mention the college, publishing house, and also the missions under the control of the Brethren church.

Every member of the Brethren church is under obligations to help bear the debts and if we all help they will soon become a thing of the past.

Brethren and sisters let us put on the whole armor of God, refrain from unnecessary things and pay these debts we owe. We should not forget the Sunday-school and all auxiliaries to the church. If we are the children of God we are personally interested and owe these debts until we pay them.

If God would turn the search light upon us we would become overwhelmed with the knowledge of the many debts we owe.

Among them the debt we owe to God for our existence. The debt of love and gratitude we owe our parents, brothers, sisters and kind friends for their kind, patient, watchful care over us.

The debt we owe our enemies for lifting us up and drawing us nearer to our heavenly Father.

The debt we owe to these dear little children for their happy smiling faces and

the sunshine they bring into the home. How can a home be complete without them?

The debt we owe our pastors and teachers for instructing us in the "Book of Life."

The debt we owe our sister churches for their help in carrying on the good work and spreading the glad tidings all the world around. May God hasten the day when sectarianism and church names will sink into oblivion and we will lose sight of all, save Christ, our leader, and may we all join hands and heart and rally round the cross, each in his might and strive to pay these debts we owe.

To every stranger that enters our homes and churches we owe a friendly greeting. *Pay it today*, my friends, ere it is too late, for pay-day comes if not in this world, it will in the next.

If your bother or sister has wronged you, forgive him, not only seven times, but seventy times seven, and until you do, you are as deeply in debt as he.

Is there a parent in this house that is not instructing the little ones about Jesus, they are deeply in debt, and may be called to pay when it is too late.

To the sinner who is away from Christ. *We*, as christians, cannot measure the debt we owe them. Let us pay our dues until the debt is cancelled. To the weak Christian, let us unitedly lift him up and help him onward and upward toward the pearly gates. So then let us pay while it is day, for the night cometh when no one can pay.

We turn to the spiritual side and thank God again for our existence, for placing us in a land of plenty, peace and prosperity, for the church, friends, home, health and happiness, and we are in debt unless we help others to have the same.

But what can we do to pay the debt we owe Him? When we think of the awful price that was paid for our redemption, we are ready to exclaim:

"Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe."

Do we not know, dear friends, that we are bought with a price? Oh hasten, ere it is too late. Give your life to Him. *Tomorrow may be too late. Pay the debt* you owe, by giving yourselves, your talents, your finances, *all, all to Him* who gave *all* for *you*.

There are many people who are in hot water all the time because they are always jumping at conclusions in regard to their friends and associates. It is an excellent thing to decide quickly in regard to many things, but when it comes to judging another, it pays to go slow.

THE POSSIBLE GOOD OF UNION MEETINGS.

LAURA GREER.

We are living in a world of progress and improvement. There is great progress in the Christian church at large, as well as everything else.

The cries are heard all about us every day, "How may I make a more rapid progress in this spiritual life?"

This great wide world of ours is filled with the spirit of dissatisfaction, and I thank God for it.

We are a progressing nation, hence, what satisfied the people fifty years ago, will not suffice now. Therefore we must be constantly devising new plans, suggesting new methods as to how God's vineyard shall be cultivated in order to produce the best fruit.

You that have attended the conferences both State and National know what a wonderful inspiration is received from them. So someone has said, would not a Union Meeting (or let's say a Primary conference) be a great help? So this idea was put into practice and numbers of churches are now having union meetings. In thinking of these gatherings, the question confronts us as to the *possible good* that might be obtained from such a meeting.

It is often quoted that in union there is strength. So as we unite our best efforts it produces greater power. All being of the same mind and heart, let us begin the meeting with God, and if we desire to be brought in closer touch with Christ, first remember that we must get close to him. O that each one of us might be brought into that close relationship with our Savior. An intimate walk with Jesus is the most satisfying life that we can live, even though we bear a cross as we accompany him.

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Then if we desire to make these meetings inspiring, we *must* have music that is elevating and songs that are stirring, that our hearts may be aroused to their utmost. There is not only need that sinners shall be born again, but that the church needs to be stirred and awakened to a greater realization of their Christian duties; that we may enjoy the higher ideals of life. I trust we can all say with Paul, "I press toward the mark."

Again, "Be ye therefore perfect as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." In these Christian assemblies if we wish to receive a greater infilling of the Holy Spirit, that we may be better equipped for the Master's work, let us surrender ourselves to the will of God, that Christ may work in us. O could we say with the